

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. (currently amended) A method for metering dry powder material using a metering valve comprising the following steps:

introducing powdered material into a hollow interior of an enlarged non-circular meter valve housing via an inlet provided on said housing,

rotating a circular valve sleeve provided within said housing so that a lip provided within the housing surrounding the inlet as a sealing surface moves to create an opening between the sleeve and surrounding housing that allows the metered powdered material to begin flowing through said inlet to an outlet provided in said housing, and

further rotating the valve sleeve so that an enlarged gap is formed between the enlarged non-circular housing and the circular valve sleeve everywhere within the housing except at the lip.

2. (previously presented) A method for metering dry powder material using a metering valve according to claim 1

wherein the valve sleeve can be opened by rotating the valve sleeve either to in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction.

3. (previously presented) A method for metering dry powder material using a metering valve comprising the following steps:

rotating a rotatable intermediate sleeve provided attached to said housing so that the intermediate sleeve rotates eccentric to the centerline of the hollow housing so that a valve sleeve which is attached to said rotatable intermediate sleeve alternately moves toward and away from the inlet in response to rotation of the intermediate sleeve,

introducing powdered material into a hollow interior of a meter valve housing via an inlet provided on said housing,

rotating the valve sleeve provided within said housing so that a lip provided within the housing surrounding the inlet as a sealing surface disengages the sleeve and thus allows the metered powdered material to begin flowing through said inlet to an outlet provided in said housing, and

further rotating the valve sleeve so that an enlarged gap is formed between the enlarged non-circular housing and the circular valve sleeve every where within the housing except at the lip.

4. (previously presented) A method for metering dry powder material using a metering valve according to claim 3 wherein the valve sleeve can be opened by rotating the valve sleeve either clockwise or counterclockwise.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)